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COUNTRY USSR

SUBJECT Information Spread By the SED (German Socialist Unity Party) on an Offer By Molotov at the Berlin Conference

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Comment:

Information coming from the East Berlin Communist Party outlines in some detail Molotov's proposals at the forthcoming Berlin Conference.

spread under the cloak of secrecy, mainly as propaganda pumped into the party cadres. Their summary is as follows:

1. Molotov will come to the Berlin Conference with a businesslike proposal to bring to an end the present dangerous division of Europe. He will present the following project for the organization of an "all European" defense community in contrast to the American-sponsored "Little Europe."
2. The Russians, the British, and the six Western European countries shall appoint delegates to form a Preparatory Committee for the organization of a Council of Europe.
3. These countries shall be considered the charter members of the Council, but Germany and all other European countries will be invited to enter the Council thereafter with equal rights and duties.
4. The Council shall draft a charter for the future European Community, consisting mainly of a solemn declaration that all European nations will forever forego settling their grievances by means of war, and will renounce any alliance against one another with non-European powers. The revision of the existing frontiers shall be dealt with either through negotiations between the partners directly involved, or, if they so desire, by an arbitration committee to be set up by the Council.

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5. The Council of Europe shall definitely be established after Germany has been reunited and has concluded a peace treaty with the Four Powers. It is, therefore, wrong, to speak of a neutralization of Germany, but appropriate to speak of her Europeanization.
6. The unification of Germany shall be reached through the stages frequently referred to in the Moscow press: setting up a provisional government (composed of the existing East and West German Cabinets), and elections in both Zones for a National Assembly. The National Assembly shall draft a new constitution for united Germany, and conclude a peace treaty with Russia, the United States, Britain and France. The peace treaty shall grant Germany the right to a limited national army. In case Molotov's general proposals are accepted, the Russians would be willing to make further concessions on the problem of how to organize the all-German elections.
7. With the European Council duly constituted (that is, after the entrance of a united Germany into the European Community), all European powers shall limit their armaments by mutual agreement.
8. After the establishment of the European Council, all non-European armies shall be withdrawn from Europe on the basis of a mutual understanding reached among the interested powers. A period of from two to five years will be suggested for this withdrawal. Molotov will not come with an ultimatum for the dissolution of NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization), nor demand the immediate withdrawal of the NATO troops from Europe. This offer is aimed at a compromise with the United States, because the long stalemate would put the Russian peace policy to a test and permit a gradual easing of the tension.
9. The European Council will be presented as an instrument to improve the welfare of all the European peoples: East-West trade, lowering of tariff barriers between the two halves of the continent, convertibility of the European currencies (East and West marks, for instance), a postal union (an all-European stamp, in addition to the national stamps), and improvement of travel and cultural relations.
10. This project will not be linked to another Moscow proposition for calling a five power conference which would include Communist China. The European Council will be presented as a solution of European problems only, and there will be no proposal to call Communist China into the preparatory work for the reconstruction of Europe. The proposal to call a five power conference will be made at the Berlin Conference, but it will be in another context.

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